



VCDR 2021 Weekly Summary of Legislative Activities, Committee Agendas and Calendar of Events

April 26 – April 30 Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights

Legislature

The Legislature reconvened on Wednesday January 6th. This is a new biennium with newly elected Representatives and Senators along with those returning to the legislature, new leadership in the House and Senate, and a new Lt Governor.

The Legislature has made a decision and will continue to meet remotely, as they have since March of 2020 for the remainder of this legislative year. Although there certainly have been some technology issues and other with meeting remotely, for the most part all legislative meetings can be accessed remotely. This included the respective caucus, floor sessions of the House and Senate, legislative committees and other special committees. (*See links below*)

The work to combat the ongoing Coronavirus health and economic crisis continues to be on the front burner for the Scott Administration and the Legislature, as it was last year. House and Senate Leadership are tackling other key issues as well.

The ongoing crisis has only heightened the precarious situations many Vermonters face: low income children accessing the internet for remote learning; food insecurity and isolation for the elderly and those with disabilities; loss of income and/or those needing to work for low wages on the front lines with few safety measures; housing; healthcare and many equity issues.

Much work remains to help stabilize low income families in the short term and include all Vermonters in the recovery efforts.

The legislature addressed a number of these issues during the extended session last year with the help of substantial federal funds and existing state revenues, and the focus this session will again be COVID recovery efforts. There are some additional federal funds passed in H.R. 133 already authorized in December (*see link below*).

President Joe Biden and Congress have passed a \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill – the “American Rescue Plan Act”. For Vermont the bill includes:

- 89% of Vermont households will be receiving a direct payment - 428,000 adults and 145,000 kids in Vermont will be receiving direct payments averaging \$2,230 per household.
- The bill increases the child tax credit from \$2,000 to \$3,000 and to \$3,600 for families with kids under the age of 6. This will help over 143,000 children in Vermont.
- \$1.35 billion in COVID-relief will be going to the state of Vermont and local governments
- \$152 million in rent and utility relief will be going to Vermonters who owe thousands of dollars in back rent.
- \$50 million in mortgage assistance will be going to struggling Vermont homeowners
- \$27 million will be provided to Vermont for vaccine distribution.
- Vermont will also receive a substantial increase in funding for summer school and after school programs, community health centers, mass transit and many other vital programs. *(See articles below)*

There is a dispute between the Administration and the Legislature on the use of the American Rescue Plan Act funding. The legislature has begun to incorporate and allocate some of this funding in legislation. The Governor has indicated he wants to “invest federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money in a truly strategic and fully transparent way, preferably in a single piece of legislation.” The Legislature has begun to use it in a number of different areas before the Governor’s proposals have been completely reviewed. He has sent a letter suggesting that the House, the Senate and the Administration should all agree on how to spend the ARPA funds.

****NEW**** The House passed their version of the FY 2022 Budget presented by the Governor in January. The bill begins to use some of the additional federal stimulus dollars in the America Rescue Plan Act, and will change more in the Senate as more information becomes available. The Legislature is beginning to wind down and finalize their business for the 2021 session. Senate Appropriation will vote their version of the FY 2022 budget out on Monday of this week.

The House and Senate passed another COVID Relief Bill (H.315). The governor let the bill go into law without his signature because he disagrees with some elements of the legislation, but wanted some the COVID relief to get out soon. The House passed an Economic Development and Workforce bill 2 weeks ago (H.159) that is now moving through the Senate and the Senate Appropriations committee will fold the funding in this bill into the FY 2022 Budget.

*****VCDR PLATFORM*****

Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights 2021 Legislative Platform

Attached

VCDR Website: www.VCDR.org
<https://vcdcr.org/about-vcdcr/vcdcr-platform/>

*****Featured LEGISLATIVE UPDATES *****

MadFreedom is a human and civil rights advocacy organization whose mission is to secure political power to end discrimination and oppression of people based on perceived mental state. Each week, MadFreedom curates a calendar of committee hearings in the Vermont legislature that concern issues **of interest to psychiatric survivors and/or social justice advocates.**

****NEW**** Link to this week’s calendar: **04/26/2021 -**

https://mcusercontent.com/4c0f316156312742402b0121c/files/e867e819-3e9d-4057-888d-5038df42a834/2021April26_CuratedCalendar.01.pdf

****NEW**** Vermont Cares Partners – April 20, 2021

Legislative View - Vermont Care Partners: [Legislative Update for April 20, 2021 –](#)

*****THIS WEEK*****

The Senate Appropriation Committee will vote out **H. 439 - An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government** on Monday. *See new documents below.*

The full Senate will debate their version of the FY 2022 bill on the Floor this week.

The full Senate will take up **H.210 - An act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system.**

[H.210: As Recommended by the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare](#)

House Human Services will take up **J.R.H. 6 - Joint resolution relating to racism as a public health emergency** on Wednesday and **H. 243 - An act relating to the Working Group on Services for Adults with Autism**

J.R.H 6 -

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/RESOLUTN/JRH006/JRH006%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

H. 243 - <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0243/H-0243%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

*****LEGISLATIVE PAGES*****

Legislature Website: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/>

Announcements - Caucuses, Meetings and Streaming Links:
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/home/noteworthy/announcements/>

Complete Schedule of Legislative Committee Agendas:
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/weeklyAgendas/2022>

House and Senate Committee Pages:
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/document/2022/9/Date/1-15-2021#documents-section>

All committees can be viewed through you tube LIVE STREAM. You can find the link on the committee's page or the agenda.

House and Senate Floor Times

House Sessions

Tuesday at 10:00 AM
Wednesday at 1:15 PM
Thursday at 1:15 PM
Friday at 9:30 AM

Senate Sessions

Tuesday at 9:30 AM
Wednesday at 1:00 PM
Thursday at 1:00 PM
Friday at 11:30 AM

Times are subject to change.

*****SELECTED LEGISLATION and TESTIMONY *****

H. 439 - An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government. *Will be posted Tuesday.*

• **STEPHANIE BARRETT, JFO**

- **H.439:** Base Funding
- **H.439:** Draft Language - Senate Proposal of Amendment
- **H.439:** General Fund - Onetime
- **H.439:** ARPA - G Section Addition to H. 439

- **H.439: ARPA - State Fiscal Category Summary**

H.232: Racial Housing and Wealth Inequality and Discrimination

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0232/H-0232%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

- **STEPHANIE SEGUINO UVM - RACIAL BARRIERS TO HOME OWNERSHIP**

[H.232: Racial Housing and Wealth Inequality and Discrimination](#) Stephanie Seguino

J.R.H. 6 - Joint resolution relating to racism as a public health emergency

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/RESOLUTN/JRH006/JRH006%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

H.439 - FY 2022 BUDGET

[Administrations Comments on As Passed the House](#)

[Administrations Comments on As Passed the House - ARPA Stories](#)

[Administrations Comments on As Passed the House - Governor's Scott's ARPA Plan](#)

H.265 - OFFICE OF THE CHILD ADVOCATE

- Nolan Langweil, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Joint Fiscal Office - Fiscal Note - As Recommended by HHS

[Strike-all Amendment - Draft 10.3 - 4-15-2021 - House Committee on Human Services](#)

S.16 An act relating to the creation of the Task Force on School Exclusionary Discipline Reform [S.16: As Passed by the Senate](#)

S.16 proposes to create the School Discipline Advisory Council to collect and analyze data regarding school discipline in Vermont public and approved independent schools in order to inform strategic planning, guide statewide and local decision making and resource allocation, and measure the effectiveness of statewide and local policies and practices.

S. 120 - An act relating to the Joint Legislative Health Care Affordability Study Committee [S.120: As Introduced](#) and

S. 132 - An act relating to health care reform implementation [S.132: As Introduced](#)

H.210 An act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system *as passed by the House*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0210/H-0210%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

H.315 COVID-19 Relief Bill - *The bill became law without the Governor's signature.*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0315/H-0315%20As%20Passed%20by%20Both%20House%20and%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

This bill spends or reserves one-time funds of \$29,502,500 general funds; \$5,000,000 new Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF); \$59,048,000 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, and \$4,000,000 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSR). In addition, there is \$3,200,000 Reallocated and Reauthorized CRF.

J.R.H. 2 Joint resolution sincerely apologizing and expressing sorrow and regret to all individual Vermonters and their families and descendants who were harmed as a result of State-sanctioned eugenics policies and practices. *Passed the House. Currently in Senate Government Operations*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/RESOLUTN/JRH002/JRH002%20As%20adopted%20by%20the%20House%20Official.pdf>

In addition to apologizing and expressing sorrow, the resolution also resolves that the “General Assembly recognizes that further legislative action should be taken to address the continuing impact of State-sanctioned eugenics policies and related practices of disenfranchisement, ethnocide, and genocide.”

The Vermont House supported a resolution that formally apologizes for the General Assembly’s role in the Vermont eugenics movement. The resolution passed unanimously. You can watch the presentation /debate here:

here: <https://youtu.be/GhrmKVRZF0c?t=512>

H. 145 - An act relating to amending the standards for law enforcement use of force <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0145/H-0145%20As%20passed%20by%20the%20House%20Official.pdf>

H.145, as passed by the House, creates a new definition of a chokehold and clarifies that law enforcement may use a chokehold when lethal force is justified.

H.101 - An act relating to the implementation of 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 173 by providing grant funding to build systems-driven, sustainable literacy support for all students with measurable outcomes

S. 3 - An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense
- As passed by the Senate.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0003/S-0003%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

S.3 proposes several measures related to criminal proceedings involving the defendant's sanity at the time the offense was committed or the defendant's competency to stand trial for the offense.

H.101: As Recommended by the House Committee on Education *As Passed the House*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0101/H-0101%20As%20passed%20by%20the%20House%20Official.pdf>

*****JOINT FISCAL INFORMATION*****

Joint Fiscal Page: <https://lifo.vermont.gov/>

Subjects (Budgets): <https://lifo.vermont.gov/subjects/appropriations-and-budget>

FY 2022 Budget – FY 2022 Budget – House Appropriations

[H.439 - FY 2022 Budget Bill - Highlights of House Appropriations Committee Proposal](#)

[H.439 - An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government](#) Numbers and Language

[H.439 - FY 2022 Budget - One-time Lists - House Appropriations Committee](#)

[FY 2022 House Budget Web Report](#)

AMERICA RESUE PLAN ACT Summary

<https://lifo.vermont.gov/assets/Subjects/Federal-COVID-19-Relief-American-Rescue-Plan/d68aca61fc/The-American-Rescue-Plan-Act-Summary-FINAL.pdf>

*****COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS*****

House and Senate Committee Pages: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/>

Weekly Committee Agendas:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/weeklyAgendas/2022>

Below please find highlight of House and Senate Committees this week. You can go to any committee page to find documents, bills, and testimony by date, witness, bill numbers and key word searches. *The House Appropriations Committee generally meets on Mondays until they pass the budget over to the Senate; most other committees meet Tuesday through Friday.*

HOUSE COMMITTEES

House Committee on Appropriations:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/9>

On Tuesday the House Committee on Appropriations will discuss the Governor's Housing proposal, on Wednesday they will discuss Higher Education and on Thursday they will take up **S. 16 - An act relating to the creation of the Task Force on School Exclusionary Discipline Reform**

House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/11>

On Tuesday the committee will discuss **S. 62 - An act relating to creating incentives for new remote and relocation workers**

Bills voted out of Committee:

H. 159 – An act relating to creating the Better Places Program. This bill will become the Committee's Economic Development Bill. As passed by the House.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0159/H-0159%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

House Committee on Corrections and Institutions:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/17>

Most of the week the committee will take up **H. 438 - An act relating to capital construction and State bonding**

Other Bills in Committee:

S.3 An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense and discuss **Justice System Revisions** discuss

S.3 An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense -
As passed by the Senate

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0003/S-0003%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

S. 18 - An act relating to limiting earned good time sentence reductions for offenders convicted of certain crimes

H. 435 - An act relating to miscellaneous Department of Corrections-related amendments. This bill proposes to make 6 miscellaneous changes regarding the Department of Corrections, including the organizational structure, practices for hiring, training, certifying, and disciplining employees, and authorizes the use of body cameras for correctional officers.

House Committee on Education:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/10>

On Wednesday the committee will discuss Federal **Funding Rules** and **Special Education Rule 1300 and Rule 2360**

Other bills in Committee:

S. 114 - An act relating to improving prekindergarten through grade 12 literacy within the State

Bills voted out of committee:

H.101 - An act relating to the implementation of 2018 Acts and Resolves No. 173 by providing grant funding to build systems-driven, sustainable literacy support for all

(Act No. 173 (H.897of 2018). Education; special education funding - an act relating to enhancing the effectiveness, availability, and equity of services provided to students who require additional support).

H.101 *As passed by the House*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0101/H-0101%20As%20passed%20by%20the%20House%20Official.pdf>

Other Bills in committee:

S. 16 - An act relating to the creation of the Task Force on School Exclusionary Discipline Reform.

S. 115 - An act relating to making miscellaneous changes in education laws

House Committee on Energy and Technology:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/19>

On Tuesday the committee will discuss **Artificial Intelligence and Automated Decision Systems**

Bills in committee:

S. 124 - An act relating to miscellaneous utility subjects H. 263 - An act relating to State development, use, and procurement of automated decision systems and H. 410 - An act relating to the creation of the Artificial Intelligence Commission

H.263 proposes to require (1) the Secretary of Digital Services to conduct a review and inventory of all automated decision systems that are developed, used, or procured by the State; H.410 proposes to create the Artificial Intelligence Commission to support the ethical use and development of artificial intelligence in the State.

House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/13>

The committee will take up **S. 79 - An act relating to improving rental housing health and safety each day of the week**

S.79 [As Recommended by the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs](#)

Bills in committee:

H. 232 - An act relating to promoting land and home ownership and economic opportunity.

H.232 An act relating to promoting land and home ownership and economic opportunity. <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0232/H-0232%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

H. 273 - An act relating to promoting racial and social equity in land access and property ownership and

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0273/H-0273%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

H. 96 - An act relating to creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Development Task Force [H.96: As Introduced](#)

House Committee on Government Operations:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/14>

On Tuesday the committee will take up **S. 25 - An act relating to miscellaneous cannabis regulation procedures**

Bills in committee:

S. 107 - An act relating to confidential information concerning the initial arrest and charge of a juvenile

S. 15 - An act relating to correcting defective ballots

Prop 2 - Declaration of rights; clarifying the prohibition on slavery and indentured servitude

S. 15 - An act relating to correcting defective ballots

S.15 <https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0015/S-0015%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

Bills voted out of committee:

H. 196 - An act relating to supporting the work of the Executive Director of Racial Equity

[H.196: As Recommended by House Committee on Government Operations](#)

H. 293 - An act relating to creating the State Youth Council

[H.293: As Recommended by House Committee on Government Operations](#)

House Committee on Health Care

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/15g>

On Tuesday the committee will get updates on: **H. 430 - An act relating to expanding eligibility for Dr. Dynasaur to all income-eligible children and pregnant individuals regardless of immigration status**, **H.46 - An act relating to miscellaneous provisions of mental health law, Mental Health and the Criminal Justice System** and **H. 210 - An act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system**. On Wednesday they will discuss **Health Care Affordability** and on Thursday take up **OneCare Vermont**

Bills in committee:

S. 42 - An act relating to establishing the Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission

S.3 An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense - As passed by the Senate

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0003/S-0003%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20Senate%20Unofficial.pdf>

Bills voted out of committee:

H. 210 - An act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system - As Passed by the House:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0210/H-0210%20As%20passed%20by%20the%20House%20Official.pdf>

Bills in Committee:

S. 42 - An act relating to establishing the Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission - *As passed by the Senate*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0042/S-0042%20As%20passed%20by%20the%20Senate%20Official.pdf>

House Committee on Human Services:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/16>

The committee will take up **S. 20 - An act relating to restrictions on perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and other chemicals of concern in consumer products all week**. On Tuesday the committee will take up **J.R.H. 6 Joint resolution relating to racism as a public health emergency** and on Thursday they will take up **H. 243 - An act relating to the Working Group on Services for Adults with Autism** inviting DAIL to speak

J.R.H 6 - Joint resolution relating to racism as a public health emergency

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/RESOLUTN/JRH006/JRH006%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

H. 243 - An act relating to the Working Group on Services for Adults with Autism

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0243/H-0243%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

Other Bills in Committee:

H.265 An act relating to the Office of the Child Advocate.

[H.265: Draft 3.12, 3-26-2021](#)

H. 171 - An act relating to the governance and financing of Vermont's child care system [H.171: Draft 5.3, 3-9-2021](#)

H.114 - An act relating to the Nutrition for Older Vermonters Working Group

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0114/H-0114%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

House Committee on Judiciary:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/18>

On Tuesday the committee will take up **H. 128 - An act relating to limiting criminal defenses based on victim identity**, **H. 145 - An act relating to amending the standards for law enforcement use of force** and **S. 3 - An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense**

S. 3 - An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense,

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/WorkGroups/Senate%20Judiciary/Bills/S.3/Drafts,%20Amendments,%20and%20Legal%20Documents/S.3~Erik%20Fitzpatrick~As%20recommended%20by%20the%20Senate%20Committee%20on%20Judiciary~3-12-2021.pdf>

Bills in committee:

S. 7 - An act relating to expanding access to expungement and sealing of criminal history records

H. 317 - An act relating to establishing the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics and the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics Advisory Panel

Bills voted out of Committee:

H.183 [H.183: Bill as Recommended by House Committee on Judiciary](#)

H. 145 - An act relating to amending the standards for law enforcement use of force [H.145: Bill as Recommended by House Committee on Judiciary](#)

H.128 - An act relating to limiting criminal defenses based on victim identity
[H.128: Bill as Recommended by House Committee on Judiciary](#)

House Committee on Transportation

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/20>

House Committee on Ways and Means:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/21>

On Wednesday the committee will take up the **Paycheck Protection Program, Earned Income Tax Credit, Child and Dependent Care Credit** linked to the federal changes

SENATE COMMITTEES

Senate Committee on Appropriations:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/23>

The committee will vote the FY budget out on Monday - **H. 439 - An act relating to making appropriations for the support of government**

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/32>

The Committee will continue to work on Language and policy in **H. 159 - An act relating to community and economic development and workforce**

revitalization on Tuesday and Wednesday. Senate Appropriations put the funding for this bill in the FY 2022 Budget.

H.159 An act relating to community and economic development and workforce revitalization as passed by the House.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0159/H-0159%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

Bills voted out of committee:

S. 79 - An act relating to improving rental housing health and safety

[S.79: As Recommended by the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs](#) .

S.10 - An act relating to extending certain unemployment insurance provisions related to COVID-19

[S.10: As Recommended by the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs](#)

Senate Committee on Education:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/24>

On Tuesday the committee will discuss **Federal Rules and will take up** will take up **H. 106 - An act relating to equitable access to a high-quality education through community schools** and **S. 114 - An act relating to improving prekindergarten through grade 12 literacy within the State**

H.106 Equitable Access to a High-Quality Education (passed by House)

[H.106: Draft 9.1, 3-9-2021](#)

Bills in Committee:

H. 426 - An act relating to addressing the needs and conditions of public school facilities in the State

S.100 Universal school breakfast and lunch for all public school students

[S.100: Draft 2.1, 4-2-2021](#)

S. 84 – An act relating to the use of exclusionary discipline for students who are under eight years of age and to school district truancy referrals to the State’s Attorneys

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0084/S-0084%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

[S.84: Research Regarding Pre-K to 12 School Exclusion](#)

Senate Committee on Finance:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/25>

On Tuesday the Committee will discuss the **Earned Income Tax Credit, Child and Dependent Care Credit** linked to the federal changes.

Bills in Committee:

H.360 - An act relating to accelerated community broadband deployment on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. [H.360: Brief History of the VTA](#)

H.360 as passed from the House:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0360/H-0360%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

S. 60 - An act relating to allowing municipal and cooperative utilities to offer innovative rates and services and Arrearages and Disconnections in a Pandemic [S.60: As Recommended by Senate Finance](#)

S. 59 - An act relating to an income tax surcharge to reduce State retirement liabilities.

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0059/S-0059%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

Senate Committee on Government Operations:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/26>

On Tuesday the committee will take up **H. 435 - An act relating to miscellaneous Department of Corrections-related amendments** and on Wednesday and Thursday will discuss **Retirement for State Employees**

Bills in committee:

H. 449 - An act relating to the membership and duties of the Vermont Pension Investment Commission and the creation of the Pension Benefits, Design, and Funding Task Force *Bills in Committee:*

S.106 - An act relating to the livestream of legislative proceedings of the General Assembly and lobbying regulations

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0106/S-0106%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

Senate Committee on Health and Welfare:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/27>

On Tuesday the committee will take up **21-1016 - An act relating to the Task Force on Affordable, Accessible Health Care and other health care provisions**

Bills voted out of committee:

H. 210 - An act relating to addressing disparities and promoting equity in the health care system.

H. 171 - An act relating to the governance and financing of Vermont's child care system

H. 171 - An act relating to the governance and financing of Vermont's child care system, *as passed by the House:*

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0171/H-0171%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

Bills in Committee:

S. 120 - An act relating to the Joint Legislative Health Care Affordability Study Committee [S.120: As Introduced](#)

S. 132 - An act relating to health care reform implementation [S.132: As Introduced](#).

S. 91 - An act relating to Parent Child Center Network

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/S-0091/S-0091%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

Senate Committee on Institutions:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/28>

The committee will take up the Capital bill all week. On Thursday the committee will hear from the Department of **Housing and Community Development**

Senate Committee on Judiciary:

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/29>

On Tuesday the committee will take up **H.317 - An act relating to establishing the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics and the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics Advisory Panel** and on Friday will take up **S.3 - An act relating to competency to stand trial and insanity as a defense**

S.3 [S.3: As recommended by the Senate Committee on Judiciary](#)

Bills in committee:

H. 145 - An act relating to amending the standards for law enforcement use of force

H. 428 - An act relating to hate-motivated crimes and misconduct.

S. 108 - An act relating to establishing the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics and the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics Advisory Panel.

S. 18 - An act relating to limiting earned good time sentence reductions for offenders convicted of certain

H. 435 - An act relating to miscellaneous Department of Corrections-related amendments

H.128 - An act relating to limiting criminal defenses based on victim identity
[H.128: Draft 2.1, 4-2-2021](#)

H.317 - An act relating to establishing the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics and the Bureau of Racial Justice Statistics Advisory Panel
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0317/H-0317%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

S.25 An act relating to miscellaneous cannabis regulation procedures

[S.25: As Recommended by the Senate Committee on Judiciary](#)

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/30>

Senate Committee on Transportation:
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2022/31>

No committee schedule at this time.

*****VCDR BILLS OF INTEREST*****

Courtesy of Disability Rights Vermont

ATTACHED – ALSO SEE WWW.VCDR.ORG

*****ARTICLES OF INTEREST*****

Scott allows Covid-19 relief bill to become law without signature

By **Xander Landen** Apr 19 2021, 1:59 PM

<https://vtdigger.org/2021/04/19/scott-allows-covid-19-relief-bill-to-become-law-without-signature/>

In emotional decision, committee unanimously favors apologizing for eugenics movement - VTDigger:

<https://vtdigger.org/2021/03/26/in-emotional-decision-committee-unanimously-favors-apologizing-for-eugenics-movement/>

Eugenics apology approved unanimously by House, 90 years after the fact - VTDigger:

<https://vtdigger.org/2021/03/31/eugenics-apology-approved-unanimously-by-house-90-years-after-the-fact/>

House speaker drops pension plan after public backlash,4/2/21, VT Digger:

<https://vtdigger.org/2021/04/02/house-speaker-drops-pension-plan-after-public-backlash/>

Scott Announces Picks for Vermont's Cannabis Control Board

POSTED BY [COLIN FLANDERS](#) ON MON, MAR 29, 2021

<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/OffMessage/archives/2021/03/29/scott-announces-picks-for-vermonts-cannabis-control-board>

Plan to bring greater fairness to health care heads to the state Senate

By **Xander Landen** Mar 28 2021

<https://vtdigger.org/2021/03/28/plan-to-bring-greater-fairness-to-health-care-heads-to-the-state-senate/>

*****LEGISLATIVE EVENTS*****

Legislative Breakfasts and Public Events

Action Circles puts together a list of social media and remote-meeting events being held by legislators to communicate with their constituents. You can fund that here:

<https://www.action-circles.com/legislator-events/>

****INFORMATIONAL LINKS****

VT Department of Health – COVID -19: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/>

VT Digger State Coronavirus Updates: <https://vtdigger.org/coronavirus/>

COVID-19 Coronavirus: Legal and Benefits Updates for Vermonters

<https://vtlawhelp.org/coronavirus-updates>

VT LEGAL AID SERVICES UPDATE: https://vtdigger.org/press_release/vermont-legal-aid-service-update/

Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living:

<https://dail.vermont.gov/novel-coronavirus-information>

Department of Mental Health: <https://mentalhealth.vermont.gov/coronavirus-and-our-mental-health>

Resources for Education Agency of Education Guidance to Schools:

<https://education.vermont.gov/news/covid-19-guidance-vermont-schools>

Judiciary: <https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/news/information-regarding-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-1>

Department of Children and Families - Child Care:

<https://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/covid-19>

CHILD CARE STABILIZATION GRANTS:

<https://dcf.vermont.gov/sites/dcf/files/CDD/Docs/COVID/COVID-Private-Tuition-Payments-Stabilization-Guidance.pdf>

Department of Labor: <https://labor.vermont.gov/>

Department of Labor FAQs for Employers and Employees:

<https://labor.vermont.gov/covid19/covid-19-frequently-asked-questions>

Specific Guidance for Employees: <https://labor.vermont.gov/covid19/employees>

Employee Assistance (Unemployment Claims): 1-877-214-3332.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIM FORM

<https://vermont.force.com/DOLClaim/s/>

Vermont Tax Department: <https://tax.vermont.gov/coronavirus>

Information on COVID-19:

Vermont Department of Health: State agency providing updated information on matters of public health, including disease outbreaks.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Federal agency with up-to-date information on health and security.

Office of Governor Phil Scott: Press releases from the governor's office, including details on the state's efforts to address COVID-19.

[The University of Vermont Health Network:](#) Provides updated information from the health network, including preventative measures and current cases.

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Submitted by Karen Lafayette, VCDR Coordinator
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